

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 4 and 13 are presently pending in this application, Claims 3, 5 and 7-12 having been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claim 1 having been amended.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 5 was objected to because of informalities; Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Oka et al. (US 2001/0006000 A1); and Claims 4 and 13 were allowed. Although Claim 3 was objected to, Claim 3 was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim. Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

In response to the rejection of Claim 1, Claim 1 has been canceled.

In response to the objection to and rejection of Claim 5, Claim 5 has been canceled.

Amended Claim 1 is fully supported by the specification, drawings and claims as originally filled. Hence, no new matter is believed to be added thereby.

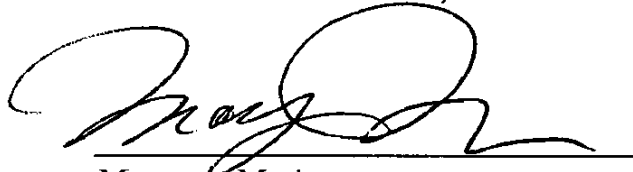
Claim 1 has been amended to add features recited in Claim 3, which was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Therefore, Claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Consequently, in view of the present amendment, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,

DITTHAVONG & MORI, P.C.

12/29, '06
Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Masayasu Mori', written over a horizontal line.

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